CHAPTER XXI

STEPS TOWARD MONARCHY1

The New Era — Caesar, Cromwell, and Bonaparte — The Seizure of Piedmont — Genoa — Etruria — The Valais — Holland and Switzerland — Censorship of the Press — Manifestations of Discontent — The San Domingo Expedition — Toussaint Lou-verture.

WITH the return of forty thousand emigrant families under an amnesty which restored to most of the former owners everything not sold excepting woods and forests, and which in some few cases permitted the redemption under easy conditions of entire estates; with the reorganization of the judiciary, of administration, of legislation, of public instruction, and of the finances under a new constitution worked by the strong hand which had made it, every observer saw that a new epoch had indeed begun. At the same time the trend of affairs toward some form of government in which the power of a single man should be dominant was likewise noticeable. This produced but little effect in the mass of the nation, but there were manifestations of discontent in two small classes of men at opposite poles of conviction. The royalists believed that their "pear was ripe/' and again opened negotiations with Bona-

1 References as before. Further, document! e lettere inedite di Vulliemin-.HistoiredelaConfeder- Napoleone I e Beauharnais; ation Suisse; Senfft: Me*moires; Theiner: Histoire des deux Con-Organisation de la politique Suisse; cordats^ Schoelcher: ViedeTous-Botta: Storia dTtalia; Cantu: saint Louverture; Reichardt: Ver-Corrispondenze di diplomatic!, traute Brief e; Roloff:DieKolonial etc. (Archives); Melzi: Memorie, Politik Napoleons I.